

Claims

We claim:

1. A pro-apoptotic composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or carrier, and an excretory-secretory product, isolatable from *Necator americanus*, capable of inducing apoptosis in reactive T-cells.

2. A method for treating cancer wherein said method comprises administering, to a mammal in need of such treatment, an effective amount of an excretory-secretory product isolatable from *Necator americanus*, capable of inducing apoptosis in reactive T-cells.

3. The method, according to claim 2, wherein said mammal is a human.

4. A method for treating inflammation wherein said method comprises administering, to a mammal in need of such treatment, an effective amount of an excretory-secretory product isolatable from *Necator americanus*, capable of inducing apoptosis in reactive T-cells.

5. The method, according to claim 4, wherein said mammal is a human.

6. A substantially pure excretory-secretory product, isolatable from *Necator americanus*, capable of inducing apoptosis in reactive T-cells.